

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

SAB-01 OMB-01 AID-20 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

/119 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/PAF:KLMARSHALL:STT

APPROVED BY ARA/PAF:BBELL

ARA/PAN:SMBELL (INFO)

ARA:JBKUBISCH (INFO)

ARA/CCA:ESLITTLE (INFO)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

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USMISSION USUN NY

UNCLAS STATE 005992

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:

SUBJECT: TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PRESS

CONFERENCE, JANUARY 10, 1974

FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PRESS

CONFERENCE, JANUARY 10, 1974:

Q: MR. SECRETARY, COULD YOU TELL US WHAT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED IN THE NEGOTIATING TALKS BETWEEN PANAMA AND THE U.S. IN THE LAST COUPLE OF DAYS THAT DIDN'T EXIST BEFORE, AND WHETHER THIS INVOLVED THE PANAMANIAN'S ACCEPTING SOME OR AGREEING TO SOME PRINCIPLES THAT WE PROPOSED, OR VISA-VERSA, OR BOTH?

A: AS IN ALL NEGOTIATIONS, THE PROGRESS REFLECTED A MODIFICATION BY BOTH SIDES OF SOME OF THE POSITIONS THEY PRE-

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VIOUSLY HELD. I THINK SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE TOWARDS A STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES WHICH NOW HAS TO BE

FILLED IN BY COMPLETE NEGOTIATIONS, BUT SINCE THOSE PRINCIPLES ARE STILL AD REFERENDUM, WHICH MEANS THAT THEY STILL REQUIRE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNMENTS CONCERNED, I DON'T WANT TO GO INTO GREATER DETAIL.

Q: MR. SECRETARY, YESTERDAY THE CUBAN AMBASSADOR IN MEXICO SAID THAT TALKS WITH THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE POSSIBLE IF THE U.S. AGREES TO LIFT THE ECONOMIC EMBARGO. SOME HAVE OF CUBA OR FROM A CUBAN OFFICIAL. HOW DO YOU SEE HIS STATEMENT?

A: WELL, I HAVE NOT HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO ANALYZE ALL THE SUBTLETIES OF THE STATEMENT. OUR POSITION IS THAT OUR OBJECTION TO CUBAN POLICY HAS CONCERNED ITS ATTEMPT TO EXPORT ITS REVOLUTION AND TO SUBVERT EXISTING GOVERNMENTS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE. OUR ATTITUDE WOULD BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE IF CUBA PURSUED A MORE RESTRAINED INTERNATIONAL COURSE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 JAN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE005992
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KL MARSHALL:STT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740147/aaaabsgo.tel
Line Count: 80
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 OCT 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 OCT 2002 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <18-Nov-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRANSCRIPT OF SECRETARY KISSINGER'S PRESS CONFERENCE, JANUARY 10, 1974
TAGS: OCON
To: ALL POSTS USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005